

Flag Protocol for Active Duty Military Deaths

Lowering of state and nation flags for military deaths

FLAG PROTOCOL

[THE FOLLOWING PROTOCOL SHALL BE USED WHEN REQUESTING THE FLYING OF THE NATIONAL AND STATE FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF TO MEMORIALIZE THE DEATH OF A FLORIDA MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY.]

1. When a Florida member of the Armed Forces dies while serving on active duty, the chair of a County Commission or the Mayor of a City wherein the deceased resided and where the decedents' parents reside (if applicable) may request in writing (including fax or e-mail) that the Governor authorize flying the National and State flags at half-staff for one day in front of the city hall, county court house and state capitol. The request shall include: a) the date and circumstances of death; b) the day requested for flying the flag half-staff taking into account the family's wishes, the day of interment and other relevant factors; c) the date of enlistment, rank, deployment and relevant military history; d) the city of residence of the decedent (and spouse if applicable) and parents (if applicable); e) the contact information of spouse and parents (if applicable) including home address, phone number and e-mail address); f) any other information the family may suggest or request. Such requests shall be mailed (FAXED OR E-MAILED) to

2. The Governor may authorize by proclamation (or other appropriate manner) that the National and State flags be flown at half-staff in the city of residence, the county seat and in front of the State Capitol for one day as declared in the Governor's proclamation.
3. Pursuant to such proclamation, the National flag shall also be flown at half-staff at any federal installation or facility in the area covered by the proclamation.
4. This protocol was promulgated pursuant to the authority granted by 4 U.S.C. Sec. 7 (m) which was signed by the President on June 29, 2007. This protocol shall be posted on the Governor's, Department of Military Affairs (DMA) and Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) Web sites. This protocol shall also be distributed to the state's Veteran Service Organizations by FDVA through the Veterans' Planning Group and all county and municipal offices throughout Florida. Once Proclamation is signed, the Executive Office if the Governor will distribute the Proclamation to the Mayor or the County Chairperson. Mr. Gary Mote, Public Affairs Officer at the General Services Administration Main Office, will distribute to specified Federal Agencies and to Department of Veteran Affairs who will distribute Proclamation to the State Veteran Organizations.